

Application No.: 09/888,063
Attorney Docket No.: 09367.0020-00000

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections set forth in the Office Action mailed on June 10, 2004. Claim amendments, including cancellations, were made to better define one embodiment of the invention, notwithstanding the Applicants' belief that the unamended claims would have been allowable, without acquiescing to any of the Examiner's arguments, and without waiving the right to prosecute the unamended (or similar) claims in another application, for the purpose of furthering Applicants' business goals and expediting the patent application process in a manner consistent with the PTO's Patent Business Goals. None of the amendments to the claims is related to the statutory requirements of patentability unless expressly stated so herein. Claims 2-6, 9-12, 14, 15, 17-27, 29, 30, 32-41, and 43-56 are pending.

Applicants note, with appreciation, the indication that Claims 6, 9, 21, 24, 36, 47, 48 and 56 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The claims have been amended herein accordingly.

Claim amendments were made to better define one embodiment of the invention, notwithstanding the Applicants' belief that the unamended claims would have been allowable, without acquiescing to any of the Examiner's arguments, and without waiving the right to prosecute the unamended (or similar) claims in another application, for the purpose of furthering Applicants' business goals and expediting the patent application process in a manner consistent with the PTO's Patent Business Goals. None of the amendments to the claims is related to the statutory requirements of patentability unless

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expressly stated so herein. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the originally filed claims in the future.

Claims 1-5, 7, 10-12, 14-20, 22, 23, 25-27, 29-35, 37-46, and 49-55 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Giuliano in view of Winzeler et al. (1999) Science 285:901 ("Winzeler"). With the amendments to the claims, this rejection is moot. Applicants request that the rejection be withdrawn.

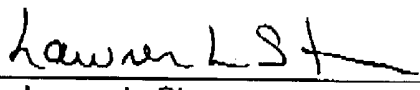
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Date: August 2, 2004

By: 
Lauren L. Stevens
Reg. No. 36,691